REMARKS

Claims 1-8 and 15-23 are pending in this application. Claims 9-14 have been cancelled as being directed to a non-elected invention. Claim 8 has been amended in order to comply with U.S. practice. In view of these amendments, the application should now be in condition for allowance. Favorable action to this effect is respectfully requested.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is requested to contact Raymond C. Stewart Reg. No. 21,066 at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37.C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: October 9, 2009

Respectfully submitted.

Raymond C. Stewart Registration No.: 21,066

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

Docket No.: 0696-0217PUS1

8110 Gatehouse Road Suite 100 East P.O. Box 747

Falls Church, Virginia 22040-0747

(703) 205-8000

Attorney for Applicant